

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only
received **MAR 22 1983**
date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name 5DV1364

historic Rocky Mountain Hotel

and/or common Same

2. Location

street & number 2301 ~~Seventh Street~~ ^{7th} n/a not for publication

city, town Denver n/a vicinity of

state Colorado code 08 county Denver code 031

3. Classification

| Category | Ownership | Status | Present Use |
|---|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> district | <input type="checkbox"/> public | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied | <input type="checkbox"/> agriculture |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private | <input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial |
| <input type="checkbox"/> structure | <input type="checkbox"/> both | <input type="checkbox"/> work in progress | <input type="checkbox"/> educational |
| <input type="checkbox"/> site | Public Acquisition | Accessible | <input type="checkbox"/> entertainment |
| <input type="checkbox"/> object | <u>n/a</u> in process | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted | <input type="checkbox"/> government |
| | <u>n/a</u> being considered | <input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted | <input type="checkbox"/> industrial |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> no | <input type="checkbox"/> military |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> museum |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> park |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> private residence |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> religious |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> scientific |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> transportation |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> other: |

4. Owner of Property

name Lynn A. and Judith A. Ilg; David G. and Barbara A. Pike

street & number 2301 Seventh Street

city, town Denver n/a vicinity of state Colorado 80227

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Register of Deeds

street & number City & County of Denver, 1445 Cleveland Place

city, town Denver state Colorado

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Colorado Inventory of Historic Sites listed as Zang Barn & Stable (Rocky Mountain Hotel)
has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date Ongoing federal state county local

depository for survey records Colorado Preservation Office

city, town Denver state Colorado

7. Description

Condition excellent good fair deteriorated ruins unexposed**Check one** unaltered altered**Check one** original site moved

date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Rocky Mountain Hotel is located in north Denver, a short distance east of Interstate 25 at the Twenty-third Avenue exit, and just west of the South Platte River.

This late Victorian commercial building, now painted white, was constructed in 1892. It is two-story, with the basement partially below grade. The front (southwest) facade is five bay, with the southeast wall being nine-bay. All windows are segmentally arched with keystones, and all have stone sills. The stone sills of the second floor coincide with the belt course encircling the building. The wide cornice is bracketed and has a central triangular plaque.

The front wall is distinguished by a cornice dividing the first and second stories. The entryway to the restaurant is off-center and is recessed, with large windows to either side. The original entrance to the hotel is located to the side of the entrance and is now boarded. (It is planned to reopen this entrance in the near future.)

8. Significance

| Period | Areas of Significance—Check and justify below | | | |
|---|---|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> community planning | <input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> religion |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499 | <input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic | <input type="checkbox"/> conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> law | <input type="checkbox"/> science |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599 | <input type="checkbox"/> agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> economics | <input type="checkbox"/> literature | <input type="checkbox"/> sculpture |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699 | <input type="checkbox"/> architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> education | <input type="checkbox"/> military | <input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799 | <input type="checkbox"/> art | <input type="checkbox"/> engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> music | <input type="checkbox"/> theater |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899 | <input type="checkbox"/> commerce | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement | <input type="checkbox"/> philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> transportation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1900- | <input type="checkbox"/> communications | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> industry | <input type="checkbox"/> politics/government | <input type="checkbox"/> other (specify) |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> invention | | |

Specific dates 1892 **Builder/Architect** n/a

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Rocky Mountain Hotel is important for its association with the Zang Brewery, one of early Denver's major industries which contributed to both Colorado's industrial and agricultural development.¹

The Zang Brewery was the successor to the Rocky Mountain Brewery, the first maker of beer in the area. In 1860, only a year after Denver's birth, the Rocky Mountain Brewery was established near the present site of the Zang Brewmaster's house. In 1869, John Good, proprietor of the Rocky Mountain Brewery, hired Philip Zang as manager. Zang, who was born in Bavaria in 1826, founded the Zang and Company brewery in Louisville, Kentucky, in 1859, from which most of the family's wealth was derived. After three years as manager of the Rocky Mountain Brewery, Zang bought out Good in 1872 and changed the name of the company. Adolph Zang joined his father at the brewery in 1882 and managed the operation from then until 1913 even though the business was owned by an English syndicate after 1889.

The Zang Brewery was an important consumer of Colorado agricultural products, and its proprietors were largely instrumental in starting the cultivation of barley by Colorado farmers. Frequently the Zang Company furnished the seed to the farmer along with instruction as to the best method of production. Barley for a time was the most remunerative crop in the state. Records in 1892 indicate that the Zang Brewery was paying out annually \$120,000 in wages, \$150,000 for 12,000,000 pounds of Colorado barley, \$10,000 in taxes, and \$50,000 for coal, hay, feed, printing, and other services. The brewery also required the breeding and use of hundreds of draft horses to pull their delivery wagons as far as New Mexico, Wyoming, Utah, and South Dakota.

The brewery was rebuilt several times after floods and fires and was eventually located in the area of Seventh Street and the Platte River. Production zoomed from a dozen barrels of beer a day in 1869 to 175,000 barrels a day in 1917, making it a \$3,000,000 a year concern. However Prohibition finished the company. After unsuccessful years of making near-beer, the brewery closed in 1927. Soon after, the main buildings burned to the ground, leaving just the structures which are the subject of this proposal as reminders of the heydays of the industry.

1. The Zang Brewmaster's house, 2345-7th Street, is on the National Register of Historic Places, as are two houses which were owned by Adolph Zang, son of the brewery owner, at 709 Clarkson and 1532 Emerson. The Zang Barn and Stable (2263 Seventh Street) and the Rocky Mountain Hotel were both listed as a complex in the National Register June 7, 1982. However, because of the objection to listing by the owners of the barn and stable, the complex was de-registered.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet.

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of nominated property .26

Quadrangle name Arvada

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

| | | | |
|---|-----------|---------------|-----------------|
| A | <u>13</u> | <u>498795</u> | <u>44010055</u> |
| | Zone | Easting | Northing |

| | | | |
|---|------|---------|----------|
| B | | | |
| | Zone | Easting | Northing |

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| H | | | |
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Verbal boundary description and justification

Block 2 lots 19 & 20 Highland north Denver

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

| state | n/a | code | county | code |
|-------|-----|------|--------|------|
|-------|-----|------|--------|------|

| state | code | county | code |
|-------|------|--------|------|
|-------|------|--------|------|

11. Form Prepared By

name/title H. L. Lana, Intern

organization Historic Denver, Inc.

date April 10, 1980

street & number 770 Pennsylvania Street

telephone 837-1858

city or town Denver

state Colorado 80203

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

Sabrina Sudler

title State Historic Preservation Officer (Acting)

date March 14, 1983

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Entered in the
National Register

date 4/21/83

Alvina Byer
Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

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Continuation sheet Rocky Mountain Hotel

Item number 8

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The building at 2301 Seventh Street served as a hotel to house brewers and other workers in the area, and was called the Rocky Mountain Hotel.² The second floor of the building still has the original twelve hotel rooms. The dining areas on the first floor and in the basement have been the site of a restaurant and bar since the building's beginning making it one of the oldest eating and drinking establishments in Denver. Today, it is a restaurant, appropriately named the Zang Brewing Company.

²The original owner of the Rocky Mountain Hotel apparently was William Weigele, who is listed in the Denver City Directory of 1892 as "saloon" proprietor, with an address of 2301 7th. According to the present owner, Weigele's name is inscribed in the plaque of the building.

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Rocky Mountain Hotel, Denver, Colorado

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Continuation sheet

Item number 9

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Benson, Dr. Maxine. "Tivoli: Yesterday and Today." Unpublished manuscript, 1970.

Greiner, Ruth. "Zang Brewery." Unpublished paper.

Newspapers, 1900 Census, Denver City Directory.

Wiberg, Ruth Eloise. Rediscovering Northwest Denver. Denver: Northwest Denver Books, 1976.

Denver City Directory for 1892.